

Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood  
Office of the Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

May 20, 2010

Dear Secretary LaHood:

We would like to thank you for the Department of Transportation's release of the "Policy Statement on Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodation, Regulations, and Recommendations" announced on March 15. We support the policy statement's declaration that bicycling and walking are efficient modes of transportation that have an important positive impact on our communities.

We were pleased to see the policy statement's acknowledgment of bicycling and walking as an important part of the transportation system. Bicycling and walking serve as cost-effective solutions to many of the serious issues facing our transportation system, including traffic congestion, funding concerns and air pollution. Moreover, as 40 percent of trips taken in our country are two miles or less, bicycling and walking should play an important role in providing transportation options in our small towns, suburbs and cities.

We recognize, and appreciate, that your statement was not about providing equal amounts of funding to all forms of transportation, or prioritizing bicycling and walking over other transportation modes such as trucking, freight or public transit. Instead, your commitment to consider all modes clarified that to give citizens a choice, rather than forcing them into their car, we must make sure that bicycling and walking are as safe and convenient as other modes.

We also appreciate the recognition of bicycling and walking as useful tools to address many other issues facing our nation such as increased oil consumption, air pollution, and our

growing national debt. Investments in bicycling and walking have been shown to bring significant economic development to communities across the country, and to help families lower their own transportation costs. We believe that communities should be able to move forward with projects they feel are most advantageous to them, including bicycle facilities and pedestrian infrastructure.

We hope to continue to see bicycling and walking as a central part of your livability initiative. Thank you for all of your hard work on this issue. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

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Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress

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Steven LaTourette  
Member of Congress

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James Oberstar  
Member of Congress

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Michael McCaul  
Member of Congress

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Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress

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Bob Filner  
Member of Congress

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Gerald Connolly  
Member of Congress

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Allyson Schwartz  
Member of Congress

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Chris Van Hollen  
Member of Congress

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Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress

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Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress

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David Price  
Member of Congress

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Jack Kingston  
Member of Congress

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James Moran  
Member of Congress

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Vic Snyder  
Member of Congress

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Michael Honda  
Member of Congress

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Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress

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Michael Capuano  
Member of Congress

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Raúl Grijalva  
Member of Congress

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Russ Carnahan  
Member of Congress

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Lois Capps  
Member of Congress

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David Wu  
Member of Congress

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Daniel Lipinski  
Member of Congress

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Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Member of Congress